

**In the Abstract:**

(currently amended) The invention relates to a medical instrument with a shaft (2) having on its proximal end a handle (3) consisting of two gripping members (3a, 3b) and on its distal end a tool (4) consisting of two jaw members (4a, 4b) that can rotate with respect to one another around a common rotation point (5), whereby the jaw members (4a, 4b) are rotated for opening and closing the tool (4) by means of a push pin (6) which is connected on the proximal end with a gripping member (3b) of the handle (3) which is configured to be rotatable and which on the distal end is connected with each of the jaw members (4a, 4b) by means of one toggle joint (7a, 7b). In order to design a medical instrument (1) of the aforementioned type in such a way that it can be employed even under cramped space conditions and with sufficient power transmission, the invention proposes that the pivot points (8a, 8b) of the toggle joints (7a, 7b) are mounted on the respective jaw member (4a, 4b) at a distance from the proximal end of the jaw members (4a, 4b), close to the common rotation point (5) of the jaw members (4a, 4b), and that they lie, even at maximum opening, inside the distal-end outer diameter of the shaft (2) immediately surrounding the push pin (6), and that each toggle joint (7a, 7b) is mounted over just one pivot point (10a, 10b) on the push pin (6), where the pivot point (10a) of the one toggle joint (7a) lies on the push pin (6) above the center axis (9) of the push pin (6) and the pivot point (10b) of the other toggle joint (7b) lies on the push pin (6) below the center axis (9) of the push pin (6), and that the toggle joint, and whereby the distal end of the push pin (6) connected with the toggle joints (7a, 7b) is two-armed in configuration, where the pivot points (10a, 10b) of the toggle joints (7a, 7b) are arranged on the front ends of the arms (6a, 6b) and one arm (6a) is configured as jointed away from the center axis (9) of the push pin (6) upwards, and the other arm (6b) is configured as jointed away from the center axis (9) of the push pin (6) downwards.